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N O T E O N A C O P T I C O S T R A C O N

aus: Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik 85 (1991) 276

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# Note on a Coptic Ostrakon

The editor of the Coptic receipt for poll-tax published in ZPE 14 (1979) 239 no. 14 did not succeed in transcribing its first line completely. He prints:

$\mathbb{P} \in \text{IC}$ 
 $\Delta / K$ 
 $\Delta K T \Delta \Delta Y$

Two documents can be adduced for reading the letters he left unread, viz.

Tor. 26:  $\nabla \in \mathcal{C} \Delta^{\Theta} \Delta / \text{KB} \Delta \text{KT} \Delta \Delta \mathcal{C}$ , and

BKU I 89: † €IC ΔP<sup>θ</sup> Δ/ KB) ΔKTΔΔΥ.

Read therefore in the first text

$$\neq \in \text{IC } \Delta P^{\theta} \Delta / \text{KB} \Delta \text{KT} \Delta \Delta Y,$$

i.e. 1 'arithmios' solidus was equivalent to  $22\frac{1}{2}$  carats.

In Tor. 26.5 one may as well read

$$\Upsilon (= \tau\Upsilon\text{BI}) \in \text{IC}\Delta\mathcal{K} \quad (\Upsilon \in \text{IC}\Delta\mathcal{K} \text{ ed. princ.}).$$

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